

31 October 2006

SACICG ACTIVITY REPORT
JOINT UN AGENCY LAUNCH OF
REPORT ON CHILDREN, YOUTH AND WEAPONS
IN MONTENEGRO

Podgorica, Montenegro
 25 October 2006

In a joint effort to raise the awareness of the impact of violence on children, the local offices of the UNDP, UNICEF and UNHCR in Montenegro held a joint press conference to highlight the publication of the new report, “Children and Weapons in Montenegro – A Review of Data and Research”.

The UN Agencies in Montenegro were represented at the Press conference by Mr. Garret Tankosic-Kelly, UNDP Resident Representative in Montenegro *a.i.*, Mrs. Branka Kovacevic, Head of the UNICEF Office in Montenegro; and Mrs. Robin Ellis, Head of the UNHCR Office in Montenegro.

Each of the Agencies highlighted their role in protecting children from the impact of violence. The UNDP Resident Representative highlighted the role of the UNDP Small Arms Control Project in Montenegro, which assists the Government of Montenegro to implement the national strategy for the control and reduction of SALW in Montenegro. Mrs. Ljiljana Krkeljic, the researcher who compiled the data for the SEESAC report, *Children and Weapons in Montenegro*, was also on hand to present the media with key findings from the Report.



Newspaper headline reads: “Children need to learn to resolve conflicts without violence and weapons.”



The Press Conference received excellent coverage in the local media including articles in three of the largest local newspapers and news reports on four of the local television channels.

Along with the co-organizers, UNICEF and UNHCR, the UNDP Small Arms Control Project in Montenegro assisted in organizing the press conference as well as printing in the domestic language of the *UN Secretary General’s Study on Violence Against Children* and the SEESAC report on *Children and Weapons in Montenegro*.

For more information on this or any other project activity, please contact Mr. Hans Risser, SACICG Project Manager, by telephone (+381) (81) 231 251 or by email at hans.risser@undp.org.